DNR Grant Programs

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announces the availability of applications for two cost-sharing programs:

- ◆ Targeted Runoff Management (TRM) and
- ◆ Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management (UNPS)

Applications will be available at the following DNR website beginning January 13, 2006:

http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/nps/financial.htm.

Since these programs began in 1999, the DNR has awarded a total of 474 grants to 167 different governmental units totaling the following amounts:

TRM: \$16.2 million UNPS: \$31.2 million

Applications must be postmarked no later than Monday, April 17, 2006, in order to be considered for calendar year 2007 funding. Normally, applications must be postmarked by April 15 each year. However, since April 15 falls on a weekend in 2006, Wisconsin statutes allow applications to be postmarked on the next business day...in this case, April 17.

Targeted Runoff Management (TRM)

TRM grants are competitive cost-share awards to support small-scale, 2-year projects sponsored by local governmental units. Projects may be either urban or rural in nature. The maximum award is \$150,000. Project selection is based on geographical water quality priorities, local support for the project, ability of the project to control nonpoint pollution, and other factors. Municipalities required to obtain a storm water permit under ch. NR 216 Wis. Adm. Code, are not eligible for TRM grants.

Urban Nonpoint Source and Storm Water Management (UNPS)

UNPS grants are competitive cost-share awards to support small-scale, 2-year projects sponsored by local governmental units in urban areas. Municipalities needing storm water permits under ch. NR 216, Wis. Adm. Code, are eligible to apply under this program. UNPS grants are available in two categories: planning & construction. However, only urban planning grants will be available for the upcoming 2007-08 grant cycle.

Eligible *planning* projects can include municipal storm water planning, storm water and construction site erosion control ordinance development, development of local storm water management financing options (such as storm water utilities) and information and education efforts. Planning projects must be conducted in an existing urban area or an area expected to become urban within 20 years. The maximum cost-share grant award is \$85,000.

Successful applicants will be notified in the fall of 2006. Grant agreements will be distributed shortly thereafter, but no later than December 31, 2006.

Both programs are operated on a reimbursement basis. This means grantees must pay all project costs first, then request reimbursement from the DNR. Reimbursement rates vary depending upon the project type and special conditions.

Additional details for both programs may also be found at the web address above. Or you may call Kathleen Thompson at (608) 267-7568 with your questions or to request a printed version of either application.